



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



22469

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1764  
Examiner : T. Dang  
Serial No. : 09/589,588  
Filed : June 8, 2000  
Inventors : Akira Kitamura  
: Ryoji Ichioka  
: Shinobu Yamakawa  
Title : METHOD FOR CONVERTING  
: AROMATIC HYDROCARBONS

Docket: 1197-00

Confirmation No.: 1857

Dated: October 22, 2002

*Handwritten:* 10/31/02  
Rb

AMENDMENT

BOX AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**RECEIVED**  
OCT 30 2002  
TC 1700

Sir:

In response to the Official Action dated April 24, 2002, Applicants amend as follows:

Marked-Up Version of the Claims

1. (Twice Amended) A method for converting benzene and other aromatic hydrocarbons to C7 and C8 aromatic hydrocarbons, which method comprises contacting a starting material comprising aromatic hydrocarbons, wherein said aromatic hydrocarbons comprise benzene and other aromatic hydrocarbons, and containing a non-aromatic compound content of 1 % by weight or less, with a catalyst containing mordenite and between about 0.01 to 5% rhenium to perform at least one reaction selected from the group consisting of transalkylation, dealkylation and disproportionation, thereby diminishing benzene content and converting said starting material into C7 or C8 aromatic hydrocarbons; wherein hydrogen is present in said reaction.

*Handwritten:* by what way?